

IN THE ABSTRACT

The abstract of the invention is amended as follows:

An integrated interface integrates a bus repeater and remote terminal into a single interface linking a main bus and an extended bus in a communication system. In one embodiment, the remote terminal communicates directly with the bus repeater to monitor bus repeater operation. By integrating the bus repeater and remote terminal together, the integrated interface can use only one set of input and output components for both the bus repeater and remote terminal, reducing the total number of components in the communication system.

N:\Clients\HAMILTON SUNDSTRAND\IP00087\PATENT\Appl\087.DOC